

## Sturgeon Workshop Agenda

February 8-10, 2011

### Goal & Objective:

NMFS is hosting a workshop to provide a forum for the exchange of information on Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon and their habitat; including ongoing and future threats to both species, methods to mitigate and reduce impacts to aid in restoring both species and their habitat, and areas of overlap between the two species. The goal of this workshop will be information gathering, whereby individual expert opinion, data, ideas, comments, or recommendations from individual participants will be shared and will help inform future restoration efforts. No consensus recommendations will be sought.

### **\*Times are Approximate\***

#### February 8 (1-5:30PM)

- **1:00 PM:** Purpose of the Workshop and General Sturgeon Issues
  - *Kim Damon-Randall (NMFS NER) and Bob Hoffman (NMFS SER)*

#### *Presentations in Commonwealth Meeting Room*

- U.S. Updates (*15 minutes with 5 minutes for questions*)
  - **1:15-1:35 PM:** Management Process
    - *Steph Bolden (NMFS SER)*
  - **1:35-1:55 PM:** Recovery/Proactive Conservation
    - *Larissa Plants (NMFS HQ)*
  - **1:55-2:15 PM:** Outreach
    - *Russ Bohl (NMFS NER)*
  - **2:15-2:35 PM:** Funding Opportunities and Funded Projects
    - *Lisa Manning (NMFS HQ)*
  - **2:35-2:55 PM:** Sturgeon Collection and Tissue Sampling Database
    - *Jess Pruden (NMFS NER)*
  - **2:55-3:15 PM:** Tagging Database and Sturgeon Database
    - *Sheila Eyler (FWS) and Lynn Lankshear (NMFS NER)*
  - **3:15-3:35PM:** Salvage Program
    - *Jess Pruden (NMFS NER)*
  - **3:35-3:55 PM:** Permits
    - *Colette Cairns (NMFS HQ)*
  - **3:55-4:15 PM:** ASMFC Sturgeon Technical Committee and NEAMAP Updates
    - *Kate Taylor (ASMFC)*

- Canadian Updates (*15 minutes*)
  - **4:15-4:30 PM:** Atlantic sturgeon fishery and research on the St. John River
    - Cornel Ceapa (*Acadian Sturgeon and Caviar*)

*Working Groups in Marshall and Martin Meeting Rooms*

- **4:30-5:10 PM:** Atlantic and Shortnose Sturgeon Working Group discussion (*concurrent sessions*)
  - Discussion Topics (*40 minute discussion*)
    - Outreach
    - Data collection
    - Tissue archive
    - Other agencies/individuals
    - Others
- **5:10-5:30 PM:** Working Group Reports in Commonwealth Main Room (*10 minutes per group*)
  - Atlantic Sturgeon
  - Shortnose Sturgeon

**\*\*\*\*Before leaving for the social, participants should sign up for their preferred working group sessions for Day 2 and Day 3. \*\*\*\***

- *6:00-7:00 PM: Evening Social*

February 9 (full day: 8:30-5:30 including lunch)

- **8:30 AM:** Reconvene in Commonwealth Main Meeting Room
  - *Bob Hoffman (NMFS SER)*
- *Research Presentations (15 minutes with 5 minutes for questions)*  
Moderator: Jessica Pruden
  - General Research
    - **8:40-9:00 AM:** Genomic Project
      - *Tim King (USGS)*
    - **9:00-9:20 AM:** Mixed Stock Analysis

- *Isaac Wirgin (NYU)*
  - **9:20-9:40 AM:** ACT Network
    - *Lori Brown (DSU)*
  - **9:40-10:00 AM:** New population information for sturgeon in the Altamaha River
    - *Doug Peterson (UGA)*
  - **10:00-10:20 AM:** Effective population size
    - *John Waldman (CUNY)*
- *10:20-10:35 AM: break*
- **10:35-10:50 AM:** Toxic effects of PCB's and dioxins on young life stages and gene expression of shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon
    - *Chris Chambers (NMFS)*
  - **10:50-11:10 AM:** Growth and survival of hatchery released fish
    - *Jerre Mohler (FWS)*
- Population Dynamic Models
 

Moderator: Ivan Mateo

  - **11:10-11:20 AM:** PVA shortnose sturgeon in the Ogeechee River
    - *Yetta Jager (Oak Ridge National Laboratory)*
  - **11:20-11:40 AM:** Bioenergetics model for shortnose sturgeon
    - *Dave Secor (UMD)*
  - **11:40 AM-12:00 PM:** Atlantic sturgeon
    - *Ivan Mateo (NMFS NER)*
  - **12:00-12:20 PM:** Summary of gulf sturgeon modeling efforts
    - *Jared Flowers*
- *12:20-1:20 PM: lunch*

*Working Groups in Marshall and Martin Meeting Rooms*

- **1:20-2:20 PM:** General Research and Population Dynamic Models Working Group discussion (*concurrent sessions*)
  - General Research Discussion Topics
    - *moderated by Dewayne Fox (DSU)*
      - Data gaps
      - Types of tags
      - Other agencies/individuals
      - Others
  - Population Dynamic Models Discussion Topics

- *moderated by Dave Secor (UMD)*
  - Quantitative/Qualitative criteria
  - Biological parameters
  - Information gaps
  - Developing models
  - Other agencies/individuals
  - Others
- **2:20-3:20 PM:** Working Group Reports in Commonwealth Main Room
  - General Research Issues
  - Population Dynamic Models
- *3:20-3:35 PM: break*
- Habitat
  - **3:35-5:30 PM:** Working Groups in Marshall and Martin Meeting Rooms (*concurrent sessions moderated by NMFS staff*)
    - Rivers from Canada to Delaware
    - Rivers from Maryland to Florida

**\*\*\*\*\*The ASMFC Meeting will begin at 5:30 PM in the Martin Meeting Room\*\*\*\*\***

February 10 (full day) (8:00-5:00 including lunch)

- **8:00-9:15 AM:** Habitat working groups (Continued)
- **9:15-10:00 AM:** Working Group Reports in Commonwealth Main Room
  - Rivers from Canada to Delaware
  - Rivers from Maryland to Florida
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- *10:00-10:15 AM: break*
- Impacts by Area, and Additional Issues of Interest
  - **10:15 AM-12:00 PM:** Working Groups in Martin and Marshall Rooms (*concurrent sessions*)
    - Climate change, water quality and quantity
      - *Moderator: Fritz Rohde (NMFS SER)*
    - Vessel strikes

- *Moderator: Matt Fisher (DNREC)*
  - In-water construction activities, contaminants and toxins
    - *Moderator: Julie Crocker (NMFS NER)*
- *12:00-1:00 PM: lunch*
- **1:00-2:30 PM: Working Groups in Martin and Marshall Rooms**  
*(concurrent sessions)*
    - Bycatch
      - *Moderator: Doug Peterson (UGA)*
    - Passage and alternative energy
      - *Moderator: Gayle Zydlewski (UME)*
    - Hatcheries, Stocking and Genetics
      - *Moderators: Tim King (USGS) and Jerre Mohler (FWS)*
- *2:30-2:45 PM: break*
- **2:45- 4:45 PM: Working Group Reports in Commonwealth Main Meeting Room**
    - Climate change, water quality and quantity
    - Vessel strikes
    - In-water construction activities, contaminants and toxins
    - Bycatch
    - Passage and alternative energy
    - Hatcheries, Stocking and Genetics
    - Group Discussion
- **4:45 PM: Wrap Up Next Steps and Adjourn – Kim Damon-Randall and Bob Hoffman**